

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1867
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2005
EXPORT OF SOYAMEAL
Patil Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has harvested seven million tonnes of Soyabean crop but export of Soyameal has not picked up due to low global prices;
- (b) whether South East Asian countries are buying Indian soyameal at prices above Argentina for their urgent needs owing to quick delivery schedule; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken to boost export of soyameal at competitive rates?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a): Yes. Production of Soyabean during last three years is as under:

Year Production(in Lakh MTs)

2002-03	45.58
2003-04	78.54
2004-05	77.52 (IInd Adv. Estimates)

(Source: Ministry of Agriculture)

The export of soyameal during the past few years is as under:

Year	Quantity(in Lakh MTs)	Value(Rs.Crore)
2001-02	23.83 2062	
2002-03	14.41 1336	
2003-04	17.26 1903	
Apr`2004 to Aug`2004	5.38 690	

(Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata)

(b): No such data is available. However the Soyabean Processors Association of India(SOPA) has informed that India enjoys distinct advantages over other global competitors like USA, Brazil and Argentina for exports to South East Asian countries viz. lower transaction cost due to proximity to these countries, protein richer and cheaper Indian soyabean which could be dispatched in small quantities leading to less cost in storage and locking up of less funds.

(c): Some of the steps taken to enhance agri-exports, including soyameal include sending delegations abroad, participating in International trade fairs, inviting potential buyers and providing financial assistance to exporters for improving quality, packaging, brand promotion of products and conducting market surveys. Recently, the excise duty on Food Grade Hexane, which is a solvent used for extraction of oil, has been reduced from 32% to 16%.